

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Thursday, April 3, 2014
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Buckler, Chairperson; Phil Cranford, Sabrina Hecht, Patrick Murphy, David Phalen, and Ashley Varner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Nelson and Lisa Wainger-Rush; Robert Hicks provided his resignation on April 1, 2014.

RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Loewe, Director, and Kathy Bailey, Recorder. Robert Richardson attended the meeting to provide an update on Babe Ruth Baseball.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order by Richard Buckler, Chairperson, at 5:30 p.m., in the Chesapeake Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

David Phalen moved, seconded by Phil Cranford, to approve the minutes of March 6, 2014, with one change on page two; motion carried 6-0.

REPORT ON YOUTH BASEBALL

Director Brian Loewe introduced Robert Richardson, District Commissioner/President, Babe Ruth Baseball, who provided an overview and update on activities for Babe Ruth Baseball in St. Mary's County. He provided a brief history of the league, which began in 1992; information on statistics and league play; and number of teams. He also provided an update on the new Middle School Baseball League sponsored by Cal Ripkin Babe Ruth Baseball. This league plays teams in St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert counties.

FY15 BUDGET UPDATES

Director Loewe reported that the FY15 budget schedule is moving forward as planned. The public hearing on the County's budget is set for Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Chopticon High School.

PROJECT UPDATES

Director Brian Loewe provided an update on the status of several park and facility improvement projects.

Three Notch Trail Phase VI

All local approvals have been received for the project. Staff continues to work with the Maryland SHA on the final approval needed to advertise the project.

Charlotte Hall Athletic Fields

Final seeding will be done in the spring; wet weather has delayed the permanent seeding until the next growing season. Over seeding of the fields will take place in fall 2014; the fields are anticipated to be ready for use in spring 2015. A site meeting was held this week regarding

Lancaster Park

Design and engineering continues to move forward on this project to construct two additional multi-purpose fields, parking and an entrance road at this park off Willows Road. Most of the required permits for the project have been received.

Civil War Interpretive Center at Lancaster Park

Staff is currently working with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) to address the agency's final comments related to the project as there is an exterior preservation easement on the former "Flat Tops" house.

Leonardtwn Park Design and Engineering Project

The engineering firm continues to work with county staff on the concept planning for this new county park. The park's concept plan includes multi-purpose fields, baseball/softball fields, a playground, dog park, restroom building, and parking. Additional information on the Phase I archeological study and the evaluation of the barns and other buildings on the site was submitted on February 24th.

OTHER BUSINESS

Alcohol Consumption Permit Requests

Mr. Loewe presented requests for Alcohol Consumption Permits from the Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums and the Optimist Club of the Seventh District for events to be held at Museum Division facilities. Requests included:

- Membership Reception – May 16, 2014
- Jazz and Seafood Festival - July 12, 2014
- Chamber of Commerce After Hours – July 23, 2014
- Blessing of the Fleet Weekend – October 3, 4 & 5, 2014
- Membership Reception – October 17, 2014
- Volunteer Potluck Luncheon – December 9, 2014

Phil Cranford moved, seconded by David Phalen, to approve the Alcohol Consumption Permits for the Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums and the Optimist Club of the Seventh District. Motion carried with all in favor.

Member Patrick Murphy gave a special thank you to Sandie Greene, long-time R&P Registrar, who recently received a job promotion to another County department. He also expressed thanks to R&P's Sports staff for another successful winter sports

season. And finally, he welcomed the LaPlata Blue Knights to the Tri-County Football League.

R&P BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, May 1, 2014, at 5:30 p.m., in the Chesapeake Building in Leonardtown.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on May 1, 2014.